



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Death of Christopher Marks Deemed Suicide**

**SANTA BARBARA, CA – April 3, 2013**

Santa Barbara Police Department investigators have deemed the death of Christopher Evan Marks, age 60, to be a suicide. The cause of death was a single gunshot wound to the head. The motive is believed to have been a combination of personal issues troubling Marks at the time.

This investigation started on the morning of September 20, 2012, when Marks's body was found in the surf zone on Leadbetter Beach below the cliff at Shoreline Park. A lengthy and thorough investigation ensued involving the resources of the Santa Barbara Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Santa Barbara County Coroner's Office. The gun used in the incident has not been recovered; it is believed to be a personal firearm belonging to Marks, a .38 caliber revolver that remains missing. Based on extensive and multiple searches of the park, cliff, beach, and offshore areas adjacent to the scene, as well as experiments conducted with firearms in the surf at that location, it is believed that the weapon used in this incident was carried out to sea by wave action.

On March 22, 2013, detectives from the Santa Barbara Police Department spoke with members of the Marks family and informed them of the investigation's outcome. This case is closed.

**Sergeant Riley L. Harwood, SBPD, Community & Media Relations / PIO**

**Phone: (805) 897-2320**

**Fax: (805) 897-2420**

**Email: [rlharwood@sbpd.com](mailto:rlharwood@sbpd.com)**



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